

**Keith Iseler**  
**Farmer, Huron County**  
**House Energy Policy Committee**  
**Monday, April 13, 2015**

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Chairman Nesbitt, Vice Chairs Glenn and LaVoy, and members of the committee: I am Keith Iseler, a retired dairy farmer. My 89 year old mother still owns the Centennial Farm and I am a member of Citizens for Wind Energy of Huron County and the Huron Township Zoning board.

I thank you for this opportunity to discuss the future of Michigan's energy policy.

I don't pretend to know all the ins and outs about electric regulation or your package of bills, but I can tell you this: I'm opposed to deregulation. As a person who thinks of things in terms of farming, I fully agree that electrical reliability is essential. There are certain things which can be bargained for, purchased as needed or substituted – but not electricity.

Fully regulating Michigan's electric market will ensure that clean energy generation sources will continue to be part of the state energy plan. Michigan will benefit from a stable electric market, not one that is volatile and swings with commodity markets.

Most farmers are enthusiastic about wind development. And they should be. The income is almost a total gift as there's no cost to landowners.

The Great Lakes are a world class energy resource. Offshore wind alone will continue to provide new opportunities to revitalize the region as turbine component manufacturing ramp up with demand for components like towers, blades, gear boxes, and cabling, as well as the vessels and port activities necessary to construct, operate and service the new wind farms. Deregulation would further jeopardize the reliability of Michigan's electric system by disincentivizing new investment in Michigan-made generation, like the wind turbines in Huron County.

Michigan has the capability of leading the development of next-generation wind turbine manufacturing by optimizing our strengths in engineering, advanced manufacturing and materials science. Because of new ground-

breaking collaborations between Michigan companies, wind turbine components can be manufactured in Michigan with more precision and cost-effectiveness than anywhere else in the world.

Fully regulating Michigan's electric market moves Michigan forward. Chairman Nesbitt's legislation is a step in the right direction for all Michiganders, and a Michigan-first policy that everyone should support.

Thank you.